

middle third of the frond are very slightly longer than the others and have each one lobe next to, and occasionally overlapping, the rachis (Fig. 5). My observations cannot be called extensive, but from what I have seen I am ready to say that Cinnamon fern is to be found in many forms in any locality where the species is at all abundant. It seemed sometimes that no two plants in the same field were anywhere near alike. Again when specimens from stations twenty or more miles apart were compared, they were found to closely resemble each other, even to measurements, and in three cases similar forms had pinnae forked in almost exactly the same way. While resemblance in form was remarked, the great variation in color was also noticed, plants in the same field ranging from pale to rich deep green and dull olive.

PROCTOR, VT.

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### Recent Fern Literature

Bro. Victorin<sup>1</sup> has excellently supplemented his work on the ferns of Quebec (see this JOURNAL **13**: 118, 1923) with an illustrated pamphlet of 120 pages on the Lycopodiales (that is, the genera *Lycopodium*, *Selaginella*, and *Isoetes*) of that province. As before, his investigations cover a wide field and a great array of facts and opinions, historical, geographical, evolutionary, and otherwise, bearing on the species concerned, is brought together, organized, and set forth in lucid and interesting fashion. In part I, of 83 pages, the groups and species are discussed in detail; the remainder of the work is devoted to a systematic treatment, with keys, descrip-

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<sup>1</sup> Victorin, Fr. Marie-. Les Lycopodiniées du Quebec and leurs formes mineures. Cont. Bot. Univ. Montreal, no. 3. 121 pp., 2 pls., 11 figs. Montreal, 1925.



tions, and notes on medicinal and other uses, etc. Especially in *Lycopodium*, numerous varieties and forms are recognized, fifteen of them for the first time. Indeed, so minutely in this part of the work done that it seems very unlikely that anyone botanizing in the region covered can now lack a name for any form of *Lycopodium* he may find. In all three species of *Selaginella*, four of *Isoetes*, with two varieties and forms, and 11 of *Lycopodium*, with 31 varieties and forms are recognized. Following Fernald, *L. sitchense* is treated as a variety of *L. sabinaefolium* and, following Blanchard, *L. flabelliforme* is given full specific rank, not, as in Gray's Manual, treated as a variety of *L. complanatum*, or, as in the Illustrated Flora, ignored altogether.

Ferns and the Fern Society figure largely in the May number of the *National Geographic Magazine*. The featured article, on "Ferns as a Hobby," is by Dr. Maxon and the colored illustrations which accompany it were prepared by one of our members, Mr. E. J. Geske. In brief space, Dr. Maxon has contrived to give, very readably and with the usual profuse illustration of the *Geographic*, a remarkably comprehensive view of ferns in their various aspects. Their beauty, their imitators in other families of plants, their geography, their history in past geologic ages, their cultivation here and in England, and their economic uses, all are touched upon. Representative species of different parts of the United States are called to mind, and such marvellously different growth-forms as filmy ferns and tree ferns described. The joys of collecting among the wealth of ferns in the tropics are set forth so enticingly that, reading, one is moved to buy a machete and set forth at once, regardless of climate. Finally, a rather detailed account of the processes of reproduction in ferns and of each of the



15 species illustrated is given. Mr. Geske's paintings are reproduced in the natural colors against a black background. Whether this really serves to bring them out better than the usual white or tinted one may be questioned; but at any rate the pictures are accurate, life-like, and attractive.

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### American Fern Society

#### New members:

Clark, Hugh Savage, Lancaster, Mass.

Foote, Mrs. E. M., 119 East 40th St., New York City.

Jayne, Miss Addie, Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.

#### Omitted from the recent list of members:

Leeds, Arthur N., 5321 Baynton St., Germantown, Pa.

The address of Mr. C. W. Jenks is Bedford, Mass., not New Bedford, as in the list of members.

By special request, H. E. Ransier, Manlius, N. Y., will undertake to supply Fern Society members with living specimens of hart's-tongue fern from the Jamesville, N. Y., station, which is being destroyed by the Solvay Process quarries, at 25 cents and postage. Immediate application is imperative. Small to medium-sized specimens only are available.

The thanks of the JOURNAL are due to Mr. Henry Mousley, who has given the illustration which accompanies his article in this number. We are indebted also to Prof. J. H. Schaffner for the use of the plate which appeared with his article in No. 2.